(b) whether it is also a fact that except one bus which is most unpunctual other evening homeward buses were withdrawn one by one causing considerable hardship to commuters;

(c) if so, the reasons for the same;

(d) whether Government are aware that buses of routes 920 and 973 starting from Palika Kendra and touching Kendriya Terminal are heavily overcrowded and commuters find it difficult to get into them at Kendriya Terminal;

(e) whether more buses on routes 920/973 would be provided from Kendriya Terminal in the evenings; and

(f) if so, the timings of such bus services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Route No. 920 is being operated by private buses under DTC between Palika Kendra and Keshav Puram. Route No. 973 which runs between Palika Kendra and Keshav Puram is served by DTC buses. Two trips on Route No. 973 operate from the Central Secretariat at 1745 and 1810 hrs .for Keshav Puram. No trip on Route No. 920 starts from Kendriya Terminal. It is a fact that three private buses operating on Route No. 920 have been withdrawn by the owners. The contract for two of the private buses were terminated as the vehicles have crossed the age limit as per the agreement by DTC with the private bus owners. The third bus was withdrawn by the private operator on his own. At present this route is served by two private buses.

(d) to (f) The buses plying on Route No. 920 and 973 are running with full load. There is no scope for further augmentation of buses on these routes because of fleet constraints.

गांवों में टेलीफोन सुविधा

1378. श्री राम नरेश यादव: क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि अभी तक कितने गांवों में टेलीफोन सुविधा उपलब्ध करायी गयी है, शेष गांवों में यह सुविधा कब तक उपलब्ध करा दिए जाने की संभावना है तथा इस प्रयोजनार्थ कितनी धनराशि की आवश्यकता है ?

संचार मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री पी०वी० रंगय्या नायडू): 31-3-1991 तक, कुल 42918 ग्रामों में टेलीफोन सुविधाएं प्रदान की जा चुकी हैं। सरकार ने मार्च 1995 तक सभी ग्राम पंचायतों में टेलीफोन सुविधा प्रदान करने का निर्णय लिया है। शेष ग्रामों में 2000 ई० तक टेलीफोन सुविधाएं प्रदान कर दिए जाने की संभावना है। आठवीं योजना (1990-95) तथा नौवीं योजना (1995-2000) की अवधियों के दौरान निवेश का प्रारंभिक अनुमान, 1990 की कीमतों के आधार पर, 6000 करोड़ रुपए होने की संभावना है।

S.T.D. facilities to district and sub-district head quarters in Himachal Pradesh

1379. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the districts and sub-district Head Quarters in Himachal Pradesh which are having S.T.D. facilities:

(b) progress in this egading made during 1990 and till date; and

(c) scheme if any for the remaining districts and sub-district headquarters likely to have S.T.D. facility in the near future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) (i) *District Headquarters* Out of 12 District Headquarters.

(DHQs), the following 9 DHQs have STD facilities:—

Bilaspur, Chamba, Dharamsala, Hamirpur, Mandi, Nahan, Shimla, Solan & Una.

(ii) Out of 45 sub-district headquarters, 12 sub-district headquarters have STD facilities as follows:—

Barsar, Amb., Shimla (Urban), Shimla (Rural), Nahan, Solan, Bilaspur, Una, Hamirpur, Mandi, Chamba, Dharamsala.

(b) Chamba (DHQ) has been provided with STD facility during 1990 and till date.

(c) Kulu (District H.Q.) is expected to be provided with STD facility by end of September, 1991, and Kalpa and Keylong (both District H.Q.s) by March, 1992. With this, all D.H.Q.s will be covered by STD facility. These DHQs are coterminus with the sub-district H.Qs.

The remaining 30 (out of total 45) Sub-district headquarters would be provided with STD facility during the 8th Five Year Plan period.

1380. [*Transferred to 2nd August, 1991*]

Hindustan Shipyard Limited

1381. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that clearance has been given by the Ministry of Surface Transport as well as by Bureau of Public Enterprises for the Memorandum of Understanding arrived at between the Management of Hindustan Shipyard Limited and the Unions on 4th July, 1991 on wage revision; and

(b) if so, when the said MOU is likely to be implemented; and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Abolition of RMS sorting

1382. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether abolition of RMS Sorting has resulted in much delay in postal services to the public;

(b) whether alternatives have been found to replace the RMS sorting; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether shortage of staff in various categories in postal department has also resulted in delay in postal services; and

(d) whether Government propose to make up the shortage of staff in postal department; if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No Sir, RMS Sorting has not been abolished.

(b) In view of (a) above, Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) The following number of Posts were sanctioned for creation during the year 1990-91:

(i) Postal Assistant Sorting Assistant — 2734

(ii) Sorting Postmen/Postmen — 2510

As the review of establishment is a continuous process, the proposals for creation of additional justified Posts as and when received from Heads of Circles are taken up with Ministry of Finance for obtaining their approval.

'Break in service' and 'Dies non' penalties for participation in Bharat Bandh by P & T employees

1383. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Posts and Telegraph employees who were imposed with 'break in service' and 'dies non' penal-